UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

PTOL-90A (Rev. 04/07)

	Application No.	Applicant(s)
Office Action Summary	10/750,977	MITANI, MASATERU
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Marcus T. Riley	2625	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE <u>3</u> MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on <u>05 January 2004</u>.

2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**.   2b) ☒ This action is non-final.

3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) ☒ Claim(s) <u>1-29</u> is/are pending in the application.

    4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6) ☒ Claim(s) <u>1-4,7-15,18-21 and 24-29</u> is/are rejected.

7) ☒ Claim(s) <u>5,6,16,17,22 and 23</u> is/are objected to.

8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on <u>05 January 2004</u> is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.

    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

    Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a) ☒ All   b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:

        1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

        2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

        3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>attached</u>.

4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .

5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application

6) ☐ Other: _____ .

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1.   The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the

basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

> A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –
>
> (a) the invention was known or used by others in this country, or patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country, before the invention thereof by the applicant for a patent.
>
> (b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.
>
> (e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

2.   **Claims 1, 7-13, 18-21 and 24-27** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(a) as being clearly

anticipated by Minigawa (US 7,057,747 hereinafter, Minigawa '747).

Regarding claim 1; Minigawa '747 discloses a method of configuring an image forming

apparatus, comprising: setting a first imaging option, from a first group of imaging options,

based on information provided by a user; (*"First, in step S1801, the CPU 1 determines whether

one of the existing favorite settings is selected from a favorite list shown at LST31. The list

LST31 includes the default settings prepared by the printer driver and the user settings

registered by the user."* column 9, lines 9-11); determining a default setting for a second imaging

option from a second group of imaging options, the default setting for the second imaging option

being associated with the set first imaging option (*"The list LST31 includes the default settings*

prepared by the printer driver and the user settings registered by the user. If it is determined that

one of the existing favorite settings is selected, then the CPU determines in step S1802 whether

the currently selected "favorite" is the default setting. If it is determined that the currently

selected "favorite" is the default setting, then the CPU disables a management information

control, a delete button, etc. in step S1803 so that the user cannot edit the setting." column 9,

lines 11-18); setting, based on information provided by the user, the second imaging option from

the second group of imaging options (*"The list LST31 includes the default settings prepared by*

the printer driver and the user settings registered by the user. If it is determined that one of the

existing favorite settings is selected, then the CPU determines in step S1802 whether the

currently selected "favorite" is the default setting. If it is determined that the currently selected

"favorite" is the default setting, then the CPU disables a management information control, a

delete button, etc. in step S1803 so that the user cannot edit the setting." column 9, lines 11-18);

and selectively updating the default setting for the second imaging option based on the set first

imaging option and the set second imaging option (*"If it is determined that the currently selected*

"favorite" is the default setting, then the CPU disables a management information control, a

delete button, etc. in step S1803 so that the user cannot edit the setting. If it is determined that

the currently selected "favorite" is the user setting, then the CPU enables all controls in step

S1804, and displays the management information (such as the name, icon and comment)

assigned to the user favorite setting on the CRT 11. FIG. 17 shows an example of the UI dialog

displayed when the default setting is selected, and FIG. 19 shows an example of the UI dialog

displayed when the user setting is selected. Respective icons of the default settings and the user

settings are marked with dots so that the user can recognize separation between both the settings

upon seeing them. Such a separation is also applied to the dialog for selecting the favorite

setting (FIG. 20). If the user setting is selected, then the CPU 1 executes editing of the

management information in step S1805. In step S1806, the CPU 1 determines whether the delete

button BTN31 has been depressed. If the delete button BTN31 has been depressed, then the CPU

1 deletes the currently selected option from the favorite DB in step S1807 after displaying a

confirmation message for asking the user to agree with deletion (FIG. 21 shows an example of

the message)." column 9, lines 18-31).

Regarding claim 7; Minigawa '747 discloses determining a default setting for a third

imaging option from a third group of imaging options, the default setting for the third imaging

option being associated with at least one of the set first imaging option and the set second

imaging option (*"The list LST31 includes the default settings prepared by the printer driver and*

the user settings registered by the user. If it is determined that one of the existing favorite

settings is selected, then the CPU determines in step S1802 whether the currently selected

"favorite" is the default setting. If it is determined that the currently selected "favorite" is the

default setting, then the CPU disables a management information control, a delete button, etc. in

step S1803 so that the user cannot edit the setting." column 9, lines 11-18); setting the third

imaging option from the third group of imaging options as selected by the user (*"If it is*

determined that the currently selected "favorite" is the default setting, then the CPU disables a

management information control, a delete button, etc. in step S1803 so that the user cannot edit

the setting. If it is determined that the currently selected "favorite" is the user setting, then the

CPU enables all controls in step S1804, and displays the management information (such as the

name, icon and comment) assigned to the user favorite setting on the CRT 11. FIG. 17 shows an

example of the UI dialog displayed when the default setting is selected, and FIG. 19 shows an

example of the UI dialog displayed when the user setting is selected. Respective icons of the

default settings and the user settings are marked with dots so that the user can recognize

separation between both the settings upon seeing them. Such a separation is also applied to the

dialog for selecting the favorite setting (FIG. 20). If the user setting is selected, then the CPU 1

executes editing of the management information in step S1805. In step S1806, the CPU 1

determines whether the delete button BTN31 has been depressed. If the delete button BTN31 has

been depressed, then the CPU 1 deletes the currently selected option from the favorite DB in step

S1807 after displaying a confirmation message for asking the user to agree with deletion (FIG.

21 shows an example of the message)." column 9, lines 18-31); and selectively updating the

default setting for the third imaging option based on the set first imaging option, the set second

imaging option, and the set third imaging option (*"If it is determined that the currently selected*

"favorite" is the default setting, then the CPU disables a management information control, a

delete button, etc. in step S1803 so that the user cannot edit the setting. If it is determined that

the currently selected "favorite" is the user setting, then the CPU enables all controls in step

S1804, and displays the management information (such as the name, icon and comment)

assigned to the user favorite setting on the CRT 11. FIG. 17 shows an example of the UI dialog

displayed when the default setting is selected, and FIG. 19 shows an example of the UI dialog

displayed when the user setting is selected. Respective icons of the default settings and the user

settings are marked with dots so that the user can recognize separation between both the settings

upon seeing them. Such a separation is also applied to the dialog for selecting the favorite

setting (FIG. 20). If the user setting is selected, then the CPU 1 executes editing of the

management information in step S1805. In step S1806, the CPU 1 determines whether the delete button BTN31 has been depressed. If the delete button BTN31 has been depressed, then the CPU 1 deletes the currently selected option from the favorite DB in step S1807 after displaying a confirmation message for asking the user to agree with deletion (FIG. 21 shows an example of the message)." column 9, lines 18-31).

Regarding claim 8; Minigawa '747 discloses wherein the first group of imaging options comprises a color option and black-and-white option (*"Concrete examples of items which can be registered and changed by package conversion are as follows: Size of input/output paper, paper orientation, the number of copies, page layout (such as Nup and poster) representing page format, scaling-up/down rate, stamp, overlay, printing method (one-side, both-side and bookbinding printing), details of the bookbinding printing, binding direction, binding allowance, paper ejection method (such as sorting and stapling), stapled position, paper feed method (such as same feeding throughout all pages and different feeding between the start and the end), paper name, printing object, resolution, color setting, etc."* column 7, lines 12-23).

Regarding claim 9; Minigawa '747 discloses wherein the second group of imaging options comprises at least one of a duplex setting, an N-in-1 images setting, a staple setting, and a hole punch setting (*"Concrete examples of items which can be registered and changed by package conversion are as follows: Size of input/output paper, paper orientation, the number of copies, page layout (such as Nup and poster) representing page format, scaling-up/down rate, stamp, overlay, printing method (one-side, both-side and bookbinding printing), details of the bookbinding printing, binding direction, binding allowance, paper ejection method (such as sorting and stapling), stapled position, paper feed method (such as same feeding throughout all*

pages and different feeding between the start and the end), paper name, printing object, resolution, color setting, etc. " column 7, lines 12-23).

Regarding claim 10; Minigawa '747 discloses wherein the first group of imaging options comprises a color option and a black-and-white option, the second group of imaging options comprises at least one of a duplex setting, an N-in-1 images setting, a staple setting, and a hole punch setting, and the third group of imaging options comprises at least one of the duplex setting, the N-in-1 setting, the staple setting, and the hole punch setting (*"Concrete examples of items which can be registered and changed by package conversion are as follows: Size of input/output paper, paper orientation, the number of copies, page layout (such as Nup and poster) representing page format, scaling-up/down rate, stamp, overlay, printing method (one-side, both-side and bookbinding printing), details of the bookbinding printing, binding direction, binding allowance, paper ejection method (such as sorting and stapling), stapled position, paper feed method (such as same feeding throughout all pages and different feeding between the start and the end), paper name, printing object, resolution, color setting, etc.* " column 7, lines 12-23); wherein the second group of imaging options is different than the third group of imaging options (*"Concrete examples of items which can be registered and changed by package conversion are as follows: Size of input/output paper, paper orientation, the number of copies, page layout (such as Nup and poster) representing page format, scaling-up/down rate, stamp, overlay, printing method (one-side, both-side and bookbinding printing), details of the bookbinding printing, binding direction, binding allowance, paper ejection method (such as sorting and stapling), stapled position, paper feed method (such as same feeding throughout all pages and different*

feeding between the start and the end), paper name, printing object, resolution, color setting, etc." column 7, lines 12-23).

Regarding claim 11; Minigawa '747 discloses wherein if the set second imaging option is different from the default setting for the second imaging option, the default setting is changed to match the set second imaging option (*"The list LST31 includes the default settings prepared by the printer driver and the user settings registered by the user. If it is determined that one of the existing favorite settings is selected, then the CPU determines in step S1802 whether the currently selected "favorite" is the default setting. If it is determined that the currently selected "favorite" is the default setting, then the CPU disables a management information control, a delete button, etc. in step S1803 so that the user cannot edit the setting."* column 9, lines 11-18).

Regarding claim 12; Minigawa '747 discloses an image forming apparatus, comprising: an image former configured to form an image on a media (*"In such a system, when detailed setting of an application and a device driver (e.g., printer driver) is changed by opening a user interface (UI), an instruction is inputted by the user through the KB 10 or the pointing device (not shown), and a condition or process of the setting change is displayed as a screen image on the CRT 11"* column 4, lines 46-51); a user interface configured to interface with a user (*"In such a system, when detailed setting of an application and a device driver (e.g., printer driver) is changed by opening a user interface (UI), an instruction is inputted by the user through the KB 10 or the pointing device (not shown), and a condition or process of the setting change is displayed as a screen image on the CRT 11"* column 4, lines 46-51); and a processor electrically coupled to the user interface and configured to control the image former, the processor being programmed to (*"In such a system, when detailed setting of an application and a device driver*

(e.g., printer driver) is changed by opening a user interface (UI), an instruction is inputted by the user through the KB 10 or the pointing device (not shown), and a condition or process of the setting change is displayed as a screen image on the CRT 11" column 4, lines 46-51): set a first imaging option from a first group of imaging options, based on information provided by the user (*"First, in step S1801, the CPU 1 determines whether one of the existing favorite settings is selected from a favorite list shown at LST31. The list LST31 includes the default settings prepared by the printer driver and the user settings registered by the user."* column 9, lines 9-11); determine a default setting for a second imaging option from a second group of imaging options, the default setting for the second imaging option being associated with the set first imaging option (*"The list LST31 includes the default settings prepared by the printer driver and the user settings registered by the user. If it is determined that one of the existing favorite settings is selected, then the CPU determines in step S1802 whether the currently selected "favorite" is the default setting. If it is determined that the currently selected "favorite" is the default setting, then the CPU disables a management information control, a delete button, etc. in step S1803 so that the user cannot edit the setting."* column 9, lines11-18); set the second imaging option from the second group of imaging options, based on information provided by the user (*"The list LST31 includes the default settings prepared by the printer driver and the user settings registered by the user. If it is determined that one of the existing favorite settings is selected, then the CPU determines in step S1802 whether the currently selected "favorite" is the default setting. If it is determined that the currently selected "favorite" is the default setting, then the CPU disables a management information control, a delete button, etc. in step S1803 so that the user cannot edit the setting."* column 9, lines 11-18); and selectively update the default

setting for the second imaging option based on the set first imaging option and the set second imaging option (*"If it is determined that the currently selected "favorite" is the default setting, then the CPU disables a management information control, a delete button, etc. in step S1803 so that the user cannot edit the setting. If it is determined that the currently selected "favorite" is the user setting, then the CPU enables all controls in step S1804, and displays the management information (such as the name, icon and comment) assigned to the user favorite setting on the CRT 11. FIG. 17 shows an example of the UI dialog displayed when the default setting is selected, and FIG. 19 shows an example of the UI dialog displayed when the user setting is selected. Respective icons of the default settings and the user settings are marked with dots so that the user can recognize separation between both the settings upon seeing them. Such a separation is also applied to the dialog for selecting the favorite setting (FIG. 20). If the user setting is selected, then the CPU 1 executes editing of the management information in step S1805. In step S1806, the CPU 1 determines whether the delete button BTN31 has been depressed. If the delete button BTN31 has been depressed, then the CPU 1 deletes the currently selected option from the favorite DB in step S1807 after displaying a confirmation message for asking the user to agree with deletion (FIG. 21 shows an example of the message)."* column 9, lines 18-31).

Regarding claim 13; Minigawa '747 discloses a memory for storing default settings for the second imaging option, the processor being electrically coupled to the memory (*"In the host-computer internal section 20, numeral 1 denotes a CPU for loading various programs, such as a control program, a system program and an application program which are read from an external memory 12, in a RAM 2 (described later) via a disk controller (DKC) 5. The CPU 1*

then runs the loaded program to carry out various data processing. The disk controller (DKC) 5

controls an access to a boot-up program, various applications, and an external memory 12 for

storing data files, etc., such as an FD, HD, CD-ROM, MD or MO." column 4, lines 18-27).

Regarding claim 18; Minigawa '747 discloses wherein the processor is further

programmed to: load a default setting for a third imaging option based on at least one of the first

imaging option selection and the second imaging option selection (*"The list LST31 includes the*

default settings prepared by the printer driver and the user settings registered by the user. If it is

determined that one of the existing favorite settings is selected, then the CPU determines in step

S1802 whether the currently selected "favorite" is the default setting. If it is determined that the

currently selected "favorite" is the default setting, then the CPU disables a management

information control, a delete button, etc. in step S1803 so that the user cannot edit the setting."

column 9, lines11-18); receive a third imaging option selection from the user interface(*"If it is*

determined that the currently selected "favorite" is the default setting, then the CPU disables a

management information control, a delete button, etc. in step S1803 so that the user cannot edit

the setting. If it is determined that the currently selected "favorite" is the user setting, then the

CPU enables all controls in step S1804, and displays the management information (such as the

name, icon and comment) assigned to the user favorite setting on the CRT 11. FIG. 17 shows an

example of the UI dialog displayed when the default setting is selected, and FIG. 19 shows an

example of the UI dialog displayed when the user setting is selected. Respective icons of the

default settings and the user settings are marked with dots so that the user can recognize

separation between both the settings upon seeing them. Such a separation is also applied to the

dialog for selecting the favorite setting (FIG. 20). If the user setting is selected, then the CPU 1

executes editing of the management information in step S1805. In step S1806, the CPU 1

determines whether the delete button BTN31 has been depressed. If the delete button BTN31 has

been depressed, then the CPU 1 deletes the currently selected option from the favorite DB in step

S1807 after displaying a confirmation message for asking the user to agree with deletion (FIG.

21 shows an example of the message)." column 9, lines 18-31); and update the default setting for

the third imaging option based on the first imaging option selection, the second imaging option

selection, and the third imaging option selection (*"If it is determined at step S1750 that the*

selected file is not currently being edited by another user, processing continues at step S1753 to

download the file from server 15. At step S1754, the user may edit the file contents in an

appropriate application (e.g., the default application) executing on the PC. At step S1755, an

updated file is uploaded to server 15, and processing continues at step S1704 of FIG. 17A."

column 22, lines 1-7);

Regarding claim 19; Minigawa '747 discloses wherein the first imaging option

comprises a color/black-and-white setting (*"Concrete examples of items which can be registered*

and changed by package conversion are as follows: Size of input/output paper, paper

orientation, the number of copies, page layout (such as Nup and poster) representing page

format, scaling-up/down rate, stamp, overlay, printing method (one-side, both-side and

bookbinding printing), details of the bookbinding printing, binding direction, binding allowance,

paper ejection method (such as sorting and stapling), stapled position, paper feed method (such

as same feeding throughout all pages and different feeding between the start and the end), paper

name, printing object, resolution, color setting, etc." column 7, lines 12-23).

Regarding claim 20; Minigawa '747 discloses wherein the second imaging option

comprises one of a duplex setting, an N-in-1 setting, a staple setting, and a hole punch setting

(*"Concrete examples of items which can be registered and changed by package conversion are*

as follows: Size of input/output paper, paper orientation, the number of copies, page layout (such

as Nup and poster) representing page format, scaling-up/down rate, stamp, overlay, printing

method (one-side, both-side and bookbinding printing), details of the bookbinding printing,

binding direction, binding allowance, paper ejection method (such as sorting and stapling),

stapled position, paper feed method (such as same feeding throughout all pages and different

feeding between the start and the end), paper name, printing object, resolution, color setting,

etc." column 7, lines 12-23).

Regarding claim 21; Minigawa '747 discloses a driver for an image forming apparatus,

the driver performing method steps of: receiving a first imaging option selection for the image

forming apparatus (*"If it is determined that the currently selected "favorite" is the default setting,*

then the CPU disables a management information control, a delete button, etc. in step S1803 so

that the user cannot edit the setting. If it is determined that the currently selected "favorite" is the

user setting, then the CPU enables all controls in step S1804, and displays the management

information (such as the name, icon and comment) assigned to the user favorite setting on the

CRT 11. FIG. 17 shows an example of the UI dialog displayed when the default setting is

selected, and FIG. 19 shows an example of the UI dialog displayed when the user setting is

selected. Respective icons of the default settings and the user settings are marked with dots so

that the user can recognize separation between both the settings upon seeing them. Such a

separation is also applied to the dialog for selecting the favorite setting (FIG. 20). If the user

setting is selected, then the CPU 1 executes editing of the management information in step

S1805. In step S1806, the CPU 1 determines whether the delete button BTN31 has been

depressed. If the delete button BTN31 has been depressed, then the CPU 1 deletes the currently

selected option from the favorite DB in step S1807 after displaying a confirmation message for

asking the user to agree with deletion (FIG. 21 shows an example of the message)." column 9,

lines 18-31); loading a default setting for a second imaging option based on the first imaging

option selection (*"The list LST31 includes the default settings prepared by the printer driver and*

the user settings registered by the user. If it is determined that one of the existing favorite

settings is selected, then the CPU determines in step S1802 whether the currently selected

"favorite" is the default setting. If it is determined that the currently selected "favorite" is the

default setting, then the CPU disables a management information control, a delete button, etc. in

step S1803 so that the user cannot edit the setting." column 9, lines11-18); receiving a second

imaging option selection for the image forming apparatus (*"If it is determined that the currently*

selected "favorite" is the default setting, then the CPU disables a management information

control, a delete button, etc. in step S1803 so that the user cannot edit the setting. If it is

determined that the currently selected "favorite" is the user setting, then the CPU enables all

controls in step S1804, and displays the management information (such as the name, icon and

comment) assigned to the user favorite setting on the CRT 11. FIG. 17 shows an example of the

UI dialog displayed when the default setting is selected, and FIG. 19 shows an example of the UI

dialog displayed when the user setting is selected. Respective icons of the default settings and the

user settings are marked with dots so that the user can recognize separation between both the

settings upon seeing them. Such a separation is also applied to the dialog for selecting the

favorite setting (FIG. 20). If the user setting is selected, then the CPU 1 executes editing of the

management information in step S1805. In step S1806, the CPU 1 determines whether the delete

button BTN31 has been depressed. If the delete button BTN31 has been depressed, then the CPU

1 deletes the currently selected option from the favorite DB in step S1807 after displaying a

confirmation message for asking the user to agree with deletion (FIG. 21 shows an example of

the message)." column 9, lines 18-31); and updating the default setting for the second imaging

option based on the first imaging option selection and the second imaging option selection (*"If it*

is determined at step S1750 that the selected file is not currently being edited by another user,

processing continues at step S1753 to download the file from server 15. At step S1754, the user

may edit the file contents in an appropriate application (e.g., the default application) executing

on the PC. At step S1755, an updated file is uploaded to server 15, and processing continues at

step S1704 of FIG. 17A." column 22, lines 1-7).

Regarding claim 24; Minigawa '747 discloses a method of configuring an image

forming apparatus, comprising: providing a user with a graphical user interface which allows the

user to select at least one first imaging option as a selected imaging option, wherein a print or

copy job requires selection of the at least one first imaging option and at least one second

imaging option (*"users can adjust various types of printer settings through a user interface in an*

information processing apparatus for producing printing data, which can be interpreted by a

printer, based on document data created using an application." column 1, lines 16-18); based on

selection of the at least one first imaging option obtained by way of the graphical user interface,

determining a default value for the at least one second imaging option (*"If it is determined that*

the currently selected "favorite" is the default setting, then the CPU disables a management

information control, a delete button, etc. in step S1803 so that the user cannot edit the setting. If it is determined that the currently selected "favorite" is the user setting, then the CPU enables all controls in step S1804, and displays the management information (such as the name, icon and comment) assigned to the user favorite setting on the CRT 11. FIG. 17 shows an example of the UI dialog displayed when the default setting is selected, and FIG. 19 shows an example of the UI dialog displayed when the user setting is selected. Respective icons of the default settings and the user settings are marked with dots so that the user can recognize separation between both the settings upon seeing them. Such a separation is also applied to the dialog for selecting the favorite setting (FIG. 20). If the user setting is selected, then the CPU 1 executes editing of the management information in step S1805. In step S1806, the CPU 1 determines whether the delete button BTN31 has been depressed. If the delete button BTN31 has been depressed, then the CPU 1 deletes the currently selected option from the favorite DB in step S1807 after displaying a confirmation message for asking the user to agree with deletion (FIG. 21 shows an example of the message). " column 9, lines 18-31)

Regarding claim 25; Minigawa '747 discloses wherein the default value for the at least one second imaging option becomes a selected value for the at least one second imaging option if a user does not override the default value by way of an entry made via the graphical user interface (*"If it is determined at step S1750 that the selected file is not currently being edited by another user, processing continues at step S1753 to download the file from server 15. At step S1754, the user may edit the file contents in an appropriate application (e.g., the default application) executing on the PC. At step S1755, an updated file is uploaded to server 15, and processing continues at step S1704 of FIG. 17A. "* column 22, lines 1-7);

Regarding claim 26; Minigawa '747 discloses wherein the at least one first imaging option includes at least one of Color mode, Duplex mode, Nin1 mode, Staple mode, and Hole Punch mode (*"Concrete examples of items which can be registered and changed by package conversion are as follows: Size of input/output paper, paper orientation, the number of copies, page layout (such as Nup and poster) representing page format, scaling-up/down rate, stamp, overlay, printing method (one-side, both-side and bookbinding printing), details of the bookbinding printing, binding direction, binding allowance, paper ejection method (such as sorting and stapling), stapled position, paper feed method (such as same feeding throughout all pages and different feeding between the start and the end), paper name, printing object, resolution, color setting, etc."* column 7, lines 12-23).

Regarding claim 27; Minigawa '747 discloses wherein the at least one second imaging option includes at least one of Color mode, Duplex mode, Nin1 mode, Staple mode, and Hole Punch mode (*"Concrete examples of items which can be registered and changed by package conversion are as follows: Size of input/output paper, paper orientation, the number of copies, page layout (such as Nup and poster) representing page format, scaling-up/down rate, stamp, overlay, printing method (one-side, both-side and bookbinding printing), details of the bookbinding printing, binding direction, binding allowance, paper ejection method (such as sorting and stapling), stapled position, paper feed method (such as same feeding throughout all pages and different feeding between the start and the end), paper name, printing object, resolution, color setting, etc."* column 7, lines12-23).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3.   The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all

obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in
> section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are
> such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person
> having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the
> manner in which the invention was made.

4.   **Claims 2-4, 14, 15, 28 and 29** rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable

over Minigawa '747 in combination with Suzuki et al. (US 7,173,730 B1 hereinafter, Suzuki

'730).

Regarding claim 2; Minigawa '747 discloses a method of configuring an image forming

apparatus, comprising: setting a first imaging option, from a first group of imaging options,

based on information provided by a user; (*"First, in step S1801, the CPU 1 determines whether*

one of the existing favorite settings is selected from a favorite list shown at LST31. The list

LST31 includes the default settings prepared by the printer driver and the user settings

registered by the user." column 9, lines 9-11); determining a default setting for a second imaging

option from a second group of imaging options, the default setting for the second imaging option

being associated with the set first imaging option (*"The list LST31 includes the default settings*

prepared by the printer driver and the user settings registered by the user. If it is determined that

one of the existing favorite settings is selected, then the CPU determines in step S1802 whether

the currently selected "favorite" is the default setting. If it is determined that the currently

selected "favorite" is the default setting, then the CPU disables a management information

control, a delete button, etc. in step S1803 so that the user cannot edit the setting." column 9,

lines11-18); setting, based on information provided by the user, the second imaging option from

the second group of imaging options (*"The list LST31 includes the default settings prepared by the printer driver and the user settings registered by the user. If it is determined that one of the existing favorite settings is selected, then the CPU determines in step S1802 whether the currently selected "favorite" is the default setting. If it is determined that the currently selected "favorite" is the default setting, then the CPU disables a management information control, a delete button, etc. in step S1803 so that the user cannot edit the setting."* column 9, lines 11-18); and selectively updating the default setting for the second imaging option based on the set first imaging option and the set second imaging option (*"If it is determined that the currently selected "favorite" is the default setting, then the CPU disables a management information control, a delete button, etc. in step S1803 so that the user cannot edit the setting. If it is determined that the currently selected "favorite" is the user setting, then the CPU enables all controls in step S1804, and displays the management information (such as the name, icon and comment) assigned to the user favorite setting on the CRT 11. FIG. 17 shows an example of the UI dialog displayed when the default setting is selected, and FIG. 19 shows an example of the UI dialog displayed when the user setting is selected. Respective icons of the default settings and the user settings are marked with dots so that the user can recognize separation between both the settings upon seeing them. Such a separation is also applied to the dialog for selecting the favorite setting (FIG. 20). If the user setting is selected, then the CPU 1 executes editing of the management information in step S1805. In step S1806, the CPU 1 determines whether the delete button BTN31 has been depressed. If the delete button BTN31 has been depressed, then the CPU 1 deletes the currently selected option from the favorite DB in step S1807 after displaying a*

confirmation message for asking the user to agree with deletion (FIG. 21 shows an example of

the message)." column 9, lines 18-31).

Minigawa '747 does not expressly disclose wherein updating the default setting for the

second imaging option comprises updating a user history based on the set first imaging option

and the set second imaging option.

Suzuki '730 discloses wherein updating the default setting for the second imaging option

comprises updating a user history based on the set first imaging option and the set second

imaging option (*"If it is determined at step S1750 that the selected file is not currently being*

edited by another user, processing continues at step S1753 to download the file from server 15.

At step S1754, the user may edit the file contents in an appropriate application (e.g., the default

application) executing on the PC. At step S1755, an updated file is uploaded to server 15, and

processing continues at step S1704 of FIG. 17A." column 22, lines 1-7).

Minigawa '747 and Suzuki '730 are combinable because they are from same field of

endeavor of network systems (*"More particularly, with regard to one aspect of the invention, a*

data storing and reproducing system using a computer network is provided..." Suzuki '730 at

column 3, lines 8-10).

At the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in

the art to modify the network system as taught by Minigawa '747 by adding wherein updating

the default setting for the second imaging option comprises updating a user history based on the

set first imaging option and the set second imaging option as taught by Suzuki '730.

The motivation for doing so would have been because it advantageous to provide a

method of storing and reproducing data on at least one of plural types of reproduction devices

("In a further aspect of the invention, a method of storing and reproducing data on at least one

of plural types of reproduction devices..." Suzuki '730 at column 3, lines 41-43).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to combine Minigawa '747 with Suzuki '730 to

obtain the invention as specified in claim 1.

Regarding claim 3; Suzuki '730 discloses identifying the user of the image forming

apparatus (*"More particularly, user information 501 includes a user identification (e.g., a*

username) and preferably includes a security code or password that may be used to verify the

user." column 10, lines 38-41). See also (*"Another approach for accessing an I/O device*

consists of an apparatus that reads a PCMCIA card containing a user's identification. The user

identification is used to determine a forwarding location for input information and a directory on

the apparatus that contains a user's output for a device connected to the apparatus..." column 2,

lines 19-24); and loading the user history for the identified user (*"The apparatus stores user*

information and is capable of temporarily storing I/O data. The PCMCIA card contains a user

identification that is used by the apparatus to access user information stored in the apparatus

such as the location of data stored on the apparatus and an identification of the user's client

terminal." column 2, lines 28-33).

Regarding claim 4; Suzuki '730 discloses wherein updating the default setting for the

second imaging option comprises updating a history table having a predetermined number of

entries of imaging options provided by the user (*"If it is determined at step S1750 that the*

selected file is not currently being edited by another user, processing continues at step S1753 to

download the file from server 15. At step S1754, the user may edit the file contents in an

appropriate application (e.g., the default application) executing on the PC. At step S1755, an

updated file is uploaded to server 15, and processing continues at step S1704 of FIG. 17A."

column 22, lines 1-7); and wherein determining the default setting for the second imaging option

comprises determining which second imaging option in the history table is most often provided

by the user in combination with the set first imaging option (*"If the reproduction data is not*

being edited, or the user wishes to view the reproduction data in read-only mode, processing

continues at step S905 to download the reproduction data from server 15 and display the

reproduction data in the default application. Alternatively, the reproduction data may be

displayed using an application selected by the user as described above with reference to FIG.

7." column 12, lines 29-35).

Regarding claim 14; Suzuki '730 discloses wherein the processor updates the default

setting by updating a user history based on the first imaging option selection and the second

imaging option selection (*"If it is determined at step S1750 that the selected file is not currently*

being edited by another user, processing continues at step S1753 to download the file from

server 15. At step S1754, the user may edit the file contents in an appropriate application (e.g.,

the default application) executing on the PC. At step S1755, an updated file is uploaded to server

15, and processing continues at step S1704 of FIG. 17A." column 22, lines 1-7).

Regarding claim 15; Suzuki '730 discloses wherein the processor is further programmed

to: identify the user via the user interface (*"More particularly, user information 501 includes a*

user identification (e.g., a username) and preferably includes a security code or password that

may be used to verify the user." column 10, lines 38-41). See also (*"Another approach for*

accessing an I/O device consists of an apparatus that reads a PCMCIA card containing a user's

identification. The user identification is used to determine a forwarding location for input

information and a directory on the apparatus that contains a user's output for a device connected to the apparatus..." column 2, lines 19-24); and load the user history for the identified user (*"The apparatus stores user information and is capable of temporarily storing I/O data. The PCMCIA card contains a user identification that is used by the apparatus to access user information stored in the apparatus such as the location of data stored on the apparatus and an identification of the user's client terminal."* column 2, lines 28-33).

Regarding claim 28; Suzuki '730 discloses obtaining a user history of imaging option selections made in previous print jobs for the at least one first imaging option and the at least one second imaging option (*"If it is determined at step S1750 that the selected file is not currently being edited by another user, processing continues at step S1753 to download the file from server 15. At step S1754, the user may edit the file contents in an appropriate application (e.g., the default application) executing on the PC. At step S1755, an updated file is uploaded to server 15, and processing continues at step S1704 of FIG. 17A."* column 22, lines 1-7); wherein the default value for the at least one second imaging option is determined based on the user history (*"If it is determined at step S1750 that the selected file is not currently being edited by another user, processing continues at step S1753 to download the file from server 15. At step S1754, the user may edit the file contents in an appropriate application (e.g., the default application) executing on the PC. At step S1755, an updated file is uploaded to server 15, and processing continues at step S1704 of FIG. 17A."* column 22, lines 1-7).

Regarding claim 29; Suzuki '730 discloses identifying the user of the image forming apparatus (*"More particularly, user information 501 includes a user identification (e.g., a username) and preferably includes a security code or password that may be used to verify the*

user." column 10, lines 38-41). See also (*"Another approach for accessing an I/O device consists of an apparatus that reads a PCMCIA card containing a user's identification. The user identification is used to determine a forwarding location for input information and a directory on the apparatus that contains a user's output for a device connected to the apparatus..."* column 2, lines 19-24); and loading the user history for the identified user (*"The apparatus stores user information and is capable of temporarily storing I/O data. The PCMCIA card contains a user identification that is used by the apparatus to access user information stored in the apparatus such as the location of data stored on the apparatus and an identification of the user's client terminal."* column 2, lines 28-33).

Allowable Subject Matter

6. **Claims 5, 6, 16, 17, 22 and 23** objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.
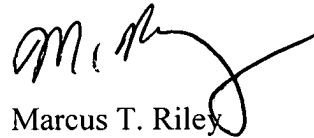
Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Marcus T. Riley whose telephone number is 571-270-1581. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday, 7:30-5:00, est.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Twyler Lamb can be reached on 571-272-7406. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.
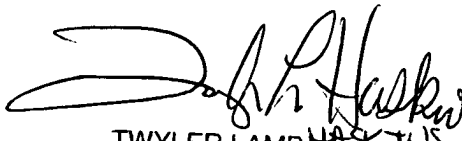
Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

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